



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Applicant(s): | Yu <i>et al.</i> | Group Art Unit: | 1652 |
| Application No.: | 10/014,896 | Examiner: | W. Moore |
| Filed: | 12/11/2001 | Atty. Docket No.: | LEX-0280-USA |
| Title: Novel Human Proteases and Polynucleotides Encoding the Same | | | |

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED OCTOBER 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on October 3, 2003 (Paper No. 6), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the rejections in Paper No. 6 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

A Petition for an Extension of Time of one month to and including February 3, 2004, and authorization to deduct the fee as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) from Applicants' representatives Deposit Account are included. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees in addition to the fee for the extension of time are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additionally required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.

02/11/2004 DENMANU1 00000097 500892 10014896

01 FC:2201 129.00 DA